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		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	

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☐

INDEX

☐

NO INDEX

☐

RETURN TO

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☐

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BY:

☐

FILE IN

FILE NO.

CONF:

(classification)

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(file)

reference number)

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PRIORITY SANTIAGO

1.

REPRESENTATIVES MET TO CONSIDER WHAT POSITION [REDACTED] SHOULD ADOPT IF ASKED BY THE CHILEAN MILITARY FOR (A) SUPPORT IN TOPPLING ALLENDE GOVERNMENT; (B) ASSURANCE OF POST-COUP SUPPORT AS A PRIOR CONDITION FOR A COUP; (C) COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE POST-COUP SUPPORT FOR A COUP ALREADY DECIDED UPON.

2.

[REDACTED] PROVIDED [REDACTED] ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SITUATION IN CHILE, CONCLUDING THAT COUP POSSIBILITIES SEEM LOW AT THIS TIME UNLESS SOME UNANTICIPATED EVENT ACTS AS A CATALYST ON THE MILITARY. [REDACTED] ROLE WILL THUS PROBABLY CONTINUE TO BE LIMITED TO STRENGTHENING THE OPPOSITION AND MONITORING DEVELOPMENTS, IF, HOWEVER, CONTINGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD LEAD TO A MILITARY COUP [REDACTED] FELT THAT MILITARY WOULD THEN WANT: FIRST, MILITARY HARDWARE TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER; SECONDLY, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ACHIEVE A LEVEL

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July 2000

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1		5	
2		6	
3		7	
4		8	

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BY _____ PER _____ # _____

☐ INDEX ☐ NO INDEX ☐ RETURN TO _____ BRANCH ☐ FILE RID
☐ FILE IN _____ FILE NO. _____

CONF:

INFO

FILE. VR.

(classification)

(date and time filed)

(e/f/t)
(reference number)

(page)

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TO [] PAGE TWO

OF LIQUIDITY WHICH WOULD PERMIT THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY: AND THIRDLY THE MORE TRADITIONAL FORMS OF AID IN TERMS OF FOOD, LOANS, ETC. ON AN ACCELERATED BASIS.

3. THE GROUP FINALLY AGREED THAT CHILEAN MILITARY WOULD NOT NEED [REDACTED] ASSISTANCE TO CARRY OUT A COUP AND THAT ANY [REDACTED] INTERVENTION OR ASSISTANCE IN THE COUP PER SE SHOULD BE AVOIDED. THE MILITARY MIGHT, HOWEVER, SEEK ADVANCE ASSURANCE ON THE TYPE OF ASSISTANCE [REDACTED] IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE FOR A NEW GOVERNMENT. A LONG DISCUSSION OF WHAT ASSURANCES, IF ANY, [REDACTED] MIGHT PROVIDE ENDED INCONCLUSIVELY, ALTHOUGH IT WAS AGREED THAT REAL DIFFICULTIES WOULD BE ENCOUNTERED IN PROVIDING THE RANGE AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE THE NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD NEED, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE LEGAL AND OTHER CONSTRAINTS GENERATED BY COPPER AND OTHER NATIONALIZATION MEASURES WHICH A NEW GOVERNMENT COULD NOT EASILY DISAVOW. IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH PRECISELY WHAT TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WOULD BE INVOLVED, WORKING LEVEL

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	5
2	6
3	7
4	8

ORIG:

UNIT:

EXT:

DATE:

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEMINATION

☐ INDEX

☐ NO INDEX

☐ RETURN TO _____ BRANCH

☐ FILE RID

BY _____ PER _____ # _____

☐ FILE IN _____ FILE NO. _____

CONF:

INFO

FILE

(classification)

(date and time filed)

(cfile)

(reference number)

(pica)

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TO

PAGE THREE

MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CHILE ARE BEING ASKED TO
EXAMINE ALL POSSIBILITIES FOR ASSISTING ANY POST-ALLENDE
CHILEAN GOVERNMENT.

END OF MESSAGE

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